

AMENDED IN SENATE AUGUST 29, 2001

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2001–02 REGULAR SESSION

**Assembly Concurrent Resolution**

**No. 3**

**Introduced by Assembly Member Wyman**

December 4, 2000

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Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 3—Relative to the  
Tomo-Kahni State Park.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

ACR 3, as amended, Wyman. Tomo-Kahni State Park.

This measure would urge the Department of Parks and Recreation to ~~implement~~ *undertake a study regarding the most suitable location for* the acquisition of lands; ~~for~~ the protection of natural and cultural resources; and the establishment of a Visitor/Interpretive Center at Tomo-Kahni State Park.

Fiscal committee: yes.

1 WHEREAS, Tomo-Kahni State Park near Tehachapi is the first  
2 unit of the California State Park System established primarily as  
3 an archaeological preserve; and

4 WHEREAS, With respect to Tomo-Kahni State Park, the State  
5 Park and Recreation Commission will be completing the formal  
6 naming and classification process in Tehachapi in Spring 2001;  
7 and

8 WHEREAS, The Sand Canyon area appears to have been the  
9 center of material, cultural, and ceremonial life for the Kawaiisu  
10 people during prehistoric and ethnographic periods; and

1 WHEREAS, There are more than 200 archaeological sites that  
2 have been recorded in the area; and

3 WHEREAS, In addition to the central village area, there are  
4 archaeological sites throughout the area containing house rings,  
5 springs, a rock shelter, a cave with pictographs, a food processing  
6 milling area, and Ma'a'puts Rock; and

7 WHEREAS, The ancestral Kawaiisu people inhabited the area  
8 2,000 years ago, and archaeological excavations have produced  
9 significant artifacts; and

10 WHEREAS, The site may contain endangered plant and animal  
11 species; and

12 WHEREAS, It has been recommended that the Department of  
13 Parks and Recreation display a set of Native American villages that  
14 represent major cultural groupings and geographically diverse  
15 lifestyles, and provide regional museums to supplement the State  
16 Indian Museum in Sacramento; and

17 WHEREAS, The Tehachapi site, because of its location on the  
18 ridge between the Great Valley and the Mojave Desert, represents  
19 the habitat of a native group that exhibited a lifestyle that was a  
20 blend of two different cultures, the Californian and the Great Basin  
21 cultures, and therefore possesses values that warrant protective  
22 measures; and

23 WHEREAS, The preservation and interpretation of significant  
24 evidence of the state's cultural heritage is a primary mission of the  
25 California State Park System; and

26 WHEREAS, Tomo-Kahni State Park is situated within a  
27 three-hour drive for 14,000,000 Californians; and

28 WHEREAS, The amount of land purchased for the park so far  
29 represents only one-third of the high-priority lands originally  
30 identified for purchase; and

31 WHEREAS, The integrity of this precious resource is in  
32 jeopardy from vandalism and unsupervised incursions because  
33 funding has not been made available to operate or secure the site;  
34 now, therefore, be it

35 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate*  
36 *thereof concurring, That, with respect to the Tomo-Kahni State*  
37 *Park, the Legislature urges the Department of Parks and*  
38 ~~*Recreation to proceed immediately to implement the acquisition*~~  
39 ~~*of lands;*~~ *Recreation to undertake a study regarding the most*  
40 *suitable location for the acquisition of land for the protection of*

1 the natural and cultural resources at the site; and the enhancement  
2 of the park by the establishment of a Visitor/Interpretive Center in  
3 order to educate the public about Kawaiisu lifeways and to serve  
4 as a regional resource to provide an outstanding educational and  
5 environmental experience for students and the visiting public; and  
6 be it further  
7 *Resolved*, That a copy of this resolution be transmitted to the  
8 Director of Parks and Recreation.

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